

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2004

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za, on packet bulletin boards and on echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that the Border Radio Club announce the passing of Honorary life member Jack Dryton, ZS2CI, in the early hours of the 9th November 2004.

Jack was for many years a member of the Border Radio Club as well as the SARL.

The Border Radio Club extends its condolences to his family and friends.

In the news today:

BEST NEWS OF THE YEAR?

ANNUAL REMBERANCE SERVICE

SARL HF FIELD DAY

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR SARL AWARDS

HAM RADIO CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE ANTARCTIC

TWO FLEA MARKETS COMING UP

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items. Also, at your convenience, visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00, at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are listening to ZS6SRL and the news follows in detail.

BEST NEWS OF THE YEAR?

Hooray!, yesterday the SARL received the long awaited letter from the Department of Communications which confirms that the amendments to the Radio Regulations had been signed by the Minister of Communications. But, do not rush in, we have still to wait a little bit longer. The amended regulations will

only come into force once they have been published in the Government gazette which will happen during the next two weeks. In the meantime, however, there is nothing to stop ZR licence holders to prepare themselves to apply for a ZS licence in accordance with one of the provisions in the new regulations. An item will be included in next week's bulletin which will highlight the changes and what we may and may not in the future.

ANNUAL REMBERANCE SERVICE

The annual remembrance service for radio amateurs who died in service for South Africa will be broadcast today, Sunday 14 November at 10:45 over the transmitters of Radio Sonder Grense. Amateur Radio Mirror International will also relay the service on 7 082, 9 750 and 17 700 kHz.

The service will be conducted in Afrikaans by Ds. Hannes Enslin, ZR6JDE, minister of the NG Congregation Silverton. Radio amateurs are requested to maintain radio silence during the transmission of the service.

SARL HF FIELD DAY

The second leg of the SARL HF Field Day is on the air over this weekend of 13 and 14 November 2004 and started at 12:00 CAT yesterday and ends 24 hours later. This is the last SARL contest for 2004.

The aim of the contest is to involve southern African stations in a competitive and sociable event held under simulated emergency conditions as well as to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio. The contest is open to all licensed radio amateurs in southern Africa.

The 160, 80, 40 and 20 m bands are the only bands permissible with CW and SSB the only modes that may be used.

The complete rules have been sent out with HF Happenings no 120 and are available on the SARL web site at www.sarl.org.za.

HAM RADIO CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE ANTARCTIC

This news item about an upcoming, exciting event has been obtained from WIANews.

Call this one ham radio across the Antarctic. It started back on September 14th, when the famed yacht "Apostol Andrey" started out to circumnavigate the area while carrying an operational ham radio station. During the trip the yacht will travel around the shores of the Antarctica without going further to the North beyond the 60th parallel which is the border of the Antarctic region in accordance with the International Agreement. The crew will try to establish a record for penetrating sailing yachts crossing the 70th parallel south latitude. And for ham radio here's the best part. The skipper of the "Apostol Andrey" is Nikolay Andrey, R3AL. He plans to be on the air from the Antarctic area starting this December and continuing through March of 2005. Andrey has the QSL cards already printed for this expedition and the ship also has

an official Russian postmark onboard and a special postal stationary envelope for this expedition. For details on the World-Wide Antarctic Program and the expedition, go to the World-Wide-Web. The spot in cyberspace is at www.ddxc.net/wap.

NOVEMBER RAE

This examination takes place this coming Thursday 18 November at 19:00 at various venues throughout South Africa. We trust that all candidates will be well rewarded with points for the hard work that they have put in during the past few months and we look forward to welcoming them on the amateur frequencies. Also many thanks to the respective clubs and lecturers for their efforts to expand the membership of the amateur radio community.

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR SARL AWARDS.

Nominations are invited for the following SARL awards for achievements during the past year: 1. Honorary Life Membership (Highest award of the SARL). 2. Willie Wilson Gold Badge (for exceptional and meritorious service to the League) 3. Jack Twine Award (to amateurs who in the opinion of their fellow amateurs and the Council, exemplify the qualities desirable in a Radio Amateur.) 4. Arthur Hemsley 2 metre Trophy (for extraordinary performance on EME or such tropospheric propagation.) 5. Barney Joel Trophy (for best performance working HF mobile) 6. Joseph White Plaque (for exceptional achievement on 432MHz band) 7. Bert Buckley six Metre Trophy (for individual achievement in the 6 metre band.) 8. ICOM Excellence Award (for international recognition to South Africa in the Amateur Service field) 9. Radio ZS VHF Trophy (for the longest distance achieved on the 2 metre band)

Names of nominees and the relevant award, together with a short motivation should be sent to The Secretary, SARL P O Box 1721, Strubensvallei 1735 or per e-mail to secretary@sarl.org.za or faxed to 011 675 2793 before 30 November 2004

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET

Next Sunday at 19:00 the President's net takes the air followed by Intecnet at 20:00. The events will be on a repeater near you or on 3718 kHz from Pretoria.

Intecnet will feature Ian Able who will discuss Echolink and IRLP, two networks that use the Internet to connect radio amateurs and repeaters world-wide.

To link your local repeater to the network send an email to armi@sarl.org.za with details of the telephone number to be linked and details of the frequency and coverage of the repeater. Due to network constraints cell phones and Pre-paidFones cannot be connected. Requests must be received by next Friday.

RADIO 702 AND CAPE TALK TO FEATURE AMATEUR RADIO

On 4 December between 06:00 and 07:00 Radio 702 and Cape Talk will again feature Amateur Radio with opportunities to call in via the telephone, two

metres in Gauteng and via 7082 in the rest of the country.

The event held last month resulted in so many emails to the radio station that the producers decided to invite amateur radio back in their studio.

KZN RADIO CLUB'S MEGA SWOP SHOP

The Highway Amateur Radio Club is having a KZN Radio Club's MEGA Swop Shop on the 27th November, 2004. It is a Bring All & Braai event at the QTH of John, ZS5JF at Monteseel, off the R103, starting at 11:00. Talk in facilities will be provided.

MEGA FLEA MARKET IN PRETORIA

Pretoria Amateur Radio Club will once again be hosting their MEGA flea market at the South Campus of the University of Pretoria on Saturday 27 November 2004 starting at 09:00 hours. Table bookings can be made with Almero ZR6RY at 082 908 3359 not later than 1 week before the event.

CQ WW SSB CONTEST 2004:

ZS6MG operated from Namibia as V55V in CQ WW SSB contest 30/31 October in SINGLE OP ALL BAND category.

During 40 hours of operation a total number of 3500 QSO's were made and 5,4 million points, which set a new ZONE 38 record for this category in this contest.

For those who worked V55V and need a card, QSL via Z33AA.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Kobus, ZS6KOB reports that the sunspot number see-sawed quite a lot over the last few days, but inclined steeply downwards since the 9th, a tendency which is most likely to continue for the next couple of days. On Thursday it was 50,6 against last week's 86,9- thus quite a large decrease. This relatively low sunspot number therefore had a great influence on the dx-bands. On 9 and 10 November there were extraordinary stormy conditions with sun winds reaching 903km/sec - possibly the highest in a very long time. These stormy conditions were classed as class 12 - the highest since 28 October 2003. Conditions may improve today as a result of a corona mass influx towards earth. In general the propagation conditions must be seen to be extremely weak. The expected average sunspot number for November is estimated as 31,0.

DIARY OF EVENTS

13-14 November Second leg of the SARL HF field day; 14 November Remembrance day service at 10:45 today on Radio Sonder Grense transmitters, as well as ARMI-frequencies. Amateurs are requested to maintain radio silence during the service; 18 November RAE examination takes place this coming Thursday; 21 November next President's net and Intecnet; 27 November Mega fleamarket in Pretoria; 27 November KZN MEGA SWOP SHOP; 30 November last day

for submission of nominations and motions for 2005 AGM; 9 April 2005 SARL AGM.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 815, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX